

the Queen City Foundation, the Greater Cincinnati Tall Stacks Commission and the Catholic Big Brothers Association of Cincinnati.

The Peace of the City Award is a well-deserved recognition for a man whose efforts have significantly increased educational attainment in Ohio, and whose community involvement has contributed to the quality of life in Greater Cincinnati.

COMMEMORATING 50 YEARS OF
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE
UNITED STATES AND THE RE-
PUBLIC OF KOREA, H. RES. 459

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 5, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce today a Resolution commemorating 50 years of relations between the United States and the Republic of Korea. It is right and fitting that the House of Representatives makes note of the special relationship that the United States and the Republic of Korea have shared since 1948—nearly half a century.

The introduction of this Resolution also marks the visit of South Korean President Kim Dae-jung to the United States and to Capitol Hill next week on June 10th where he will address a joint session of the Congress.

I congratulate President Kim and the people of South Korea on the most recent presidential elections and their strong commitment to democratic principles and practices. President Kim's visit provides a unique opportunity for the United States and the Republic of Korea to renew their commitment to cooperate on issues of mutual interest and concern.

Though the United States and South Korea are literally an ocean apart, the large Korean-American community—of almost two million—has immeasurably enriched the social and cultural fabric of the United States and serves as a sturdy bridge of friendship between the two countries.

The United States has important strategic, economic and political interests at stake in Northeast Asia and maintaining stability remains an overriding U.S. security concern in the region. South Korean soldiers have stood shoulder to shoulder with American troops on the battlefields of Korea and Vietnam to protect and advance these mutual interests.

Today, South Korea remains an important partner and ally in guarding the peace and maintaining stability in Northeast Asia. To support these objectives, 37,000 American servicemen and women are stationed in South Korea protecting freedom and democracy which is threatened on a daily basis by the communist government and armed forces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK).

The United States is pleased with the flourishing of democracy in South Korea. It is hoped that the Republic of Korea will serve as an example to others in the region and will encourage progress in the furthering of democratic principles and practices, respect for human rights, and the enhancement of the rule of law.

I am confident that despite current economic uncertainties, the Republic of Korea will

weather the troubles plaguing Asia and emerge even stronger than before.

The Congress looks forward to a broadening and deepening of friendship and cooperation with the Republic of Korea in the years ahead for the mutual benefit of the peoples of the United States and the Republic of Korea.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to introduce the legislation and I invite my colleagues in the House of Representatives to support this Resolution commemorating the distinctive ties between the peoples and the governments of these two great nations.

I include the entire text of H. Res. 459 for insertion at this point in the RECORD:

H. RES. 459

Whereas the Republic of Korea was established 50 years ago on August 15, 1948;

Whereas the United States and the Republic of Korea have long had a close relationship based on mutual respect, shared security goals, and common interests and values;

Whereas the United States relies on the Republic of Korea as a partner and treaty ally in fostering regional stability, enhancing prosperity, and promoting peace and democracy;

Whereas the American military personnel who are, and have been, stationed on the Korean Peninsula have been key in deterring armed aggression for more than 4 decades;

Whereas South Korean soldiers fought alongside American troops on the battlefields of Korea and Vietnam;

Whereas the Republic of Korea has embraced economic reform and free market principles in response to current economic circumstances;

Whereas the Republic of Korea is an important trading partner of the United States, the recipient of significant direct American investment, and a prominent investor in the United States;

Whereas the large Korean-American community has made significant contributions to American society and culture;

Whereas the people of the Republic of Korea have demonstrated their strong commitment to democratic principles and practices through free and fair elections; and

Whereas the state visit of President Kim Dae-jung to the United States offers the people of the United States and the people of South Korea an opportunity to renew their commitment to international cooperation on issues of mutual interest and concern: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates the Republic of Korea on the 50th anniversary of its founding;

(2) commends the people of the Republic of Korea on the peaceful democratic transition that has taken place during the most recent Presidential elections;

(3) supports the government of President Kim Dae-jung as it takes appropriate measures to address the problems in the Korean economy;

(4) confirms that the question of peace, security, and reunification on the Korean Peninsula is, first and foremost, a matter for the Korean people to decide and that the Four-Party Peace Talks complement direct North-South dialog; and

(5) looks forward to a broadening and deepening of friendship and cooperation with the Republic of Korea in the years ahead for the mutual benefit of the people of the United States and the people of the Republic of Korea.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE AND
COMMITMENT OF ROBERT F.
KENNEDY ON THE 30TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF HIS DEATH

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 5, 1998

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the memory of one of our Nation's most compassionate and principled leaders—Robert Francis Kennedy, who was assassinated thirty years ago today. He served our country as Attorney General and United States Senator, but his legacy cannot be measured by mere titles and offices; rather, his greatness can only be understood by understanding the uncompromising morality of his political philosophy, his devotion to the most downtrodden in our society, and the intellectual eloquence of his efforts to communicate their needs to the rest of the American community.

Robert F. Kennedy believed that one person, standing alone and guided only by the courage of his or her convictions, could move metaphorical mountains. His inspirational words to the oppressed black people of South Africa, spoken 32 years ago today, capture this spirit. They apply not just to those who were fighting against the brutal racism of apartheid, but to all of us. These words apply in particular to the life of Robert F. Kennedy.

Few will have the greatness to bend history itself; but each of us can work to change a small portion of events, and in the total of all those acts will be written the history of this generation. * * * It is from numberless diverse acts of courage and belief that human history is shaped. Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.

Robert F. Kennedy rode the crest of an immense wave, serving as the nucleus of so many great progressive causes that marked the 1960's and helped mold a more just society, one less encumbered by bigotry, poverty, and apathy. His numerous lofty causes reflected these high ideals.

Senator Kennedy fought for civil rights with a moral intensity rarely matched by the most legendary of noble crusaders. During his visit to South Africa, a land fractured by the scourge of apartheid, he addressed the most controversial questions with the absolute certainty of a man driven by the righteous rectitude of his cause. When asked at the University of Witwatersrand to respond to charges that blacks were too barbarous to be entrusted with power, he replied: "It was not the black man of Africa who invented and used poison gas and the atomic bomb, who sent six million men and women and children to the gas ovens." He condemned the race-baiting leaders of South Africa to their faces, leaving no doubt about the moral degeneracy of their policies.

Robert F. Kennedy's quest for human rights was felt most strongly by his own countrymen. As Attorney General, he did not hesitate to stare down Southern governors who attempted to curry favor with the Ku Klux Klan

by denying justice and opportunity to minorities. He sent federal marshals to integrate the University of Alabama, the University of Mississippi and other public institutions, withstanding vicious personal attacks against him in order to break down centuries-old barriers of hatred. As a United States Senator, he worked diligently to pass a wide array of civil rights legislation, including the Voting Rights Act of 1965. And as a presidential candidate in 1968, he uttered the following words to a crowd of black men and women in Indianapolis as he informed them of the tragic death of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.:

What we need in the United States is not division; what we need in the United States is not hatred; what we need in the United States is not violence or lawlessness, but love and wisdom, and compassion toward one another, and a feeling of justice toward those who will suffer within our country, whether they be white or they be black.

These were the words of a man who had known great pain after the assassination of his brother, but had overcome his hatreds to strive for a greater cause. His words touched the audience and helped to ease their immense pain at the loss of their leader.

Senator Kennedy's devotion to America's underprivileged extended to those whose problems were economic as well as social. He spoke with sharecroppers in Mississippi, hungry families in Appalachia, dispossessed Indian youths on the reservations, and migrant workers in California. He listened rather than preached to them, grasping their pain and fighting with them to ease it. Kennedy understood their longing for self-sufficiency, not government handouts. He campaigned tirelessly to provide a platform from which they could rise above their hellish circumstances: investment in impoverished cities and towns, comprehensive welfare reform (decades ahead of its time), strong advocacy for the expansion of educational opportunity, and the implementation and enforcement of labor laws to protect abused workers and, especially, exploited children.

Kennedy believed most passionately in the need to provide a better society for these young people: on the opening page of his 1967 book "To Seek A Newer World," he quoted the French intellectual Albert Camus: "Perhaps we cannot prevent this world from being a world in which children are tortured. But we can reduce the number of tortured children. And if you don't help us, who in the world can help us do this?" Kennedy's disgust at the mistreatment of children is most movingly shown by the story of a trip to a migrant worker camp in upstate New York in 1967. The noted historian Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., recorded an account of this visit in his biography "Robert Kennedy And His Times."

*** The owner's sign warned: ANYONE ENTERING OR TRESPASSING WITHOUT MY PERMISSION WILL BE SHOT IF CAUGHT. This discouraged most of the party. Kennedy, head down, kept walking. He found three migrant families living in an old bus with the seats ripped out. Inside he saw six small children, their bodies covered with running sores. The stench was overpowering *** Cardboard covered the windows of the next bus, where a child played forlornly on a filthy mattress. 'As Kennedy looked down at the child,' reported Jack Newfield, 'his hands and his head trembled in rage. He seemed like a man going through an exorcism.' The owner, as billed, had a gun.

'You had no right to go in there,' he said. . . . Kennedy replied in a whisper, 'You are something out of the 19th century. I wouldn't let an animal live in those buses. . . .' Once back in the twentieth century, Kennedy demanded that [New York Governor Nelson] Rockefeller investigate health conditions in the camps and called on labor leaders to organize the migrants."

Mr. Speaker, we will never know for certain the impact that Robert Kennedy might have had upon our country as President of the United States, but I believe it fair to speculate that fewer children would live in abandoned buses today if his boundless compassion and his energetic commitment had become a driving force behind our government.

This love of children was the source of his desire to improve the quality of our nation's schools. I once had the privilege of working with him on this all-important issue. As a young professor of economics and as a member of the Millbrae, California, school board, I was invited by Senator Kennedy's Committee to testify on the merits of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Senator Kennedy's inciteful questioning reflected an unencumbered devotion to ensuring that all children, regardless of their race, ethnicity, geographic or economic circumstances, had access to a top-notch education that would prepare them to access unlimited opportunities.

Senator Kennedy's feelings for young people also led him to his principled stand against the Vietnam War. A committed anti-Communist whose belief in civil liberties mandated his abhorrence of collectivist oppression, Robert Kennedy was a key participant in the dealings with Nikita Khrushchev and Fidel Castro during the Cuban Missile Crisis. By the mid-1960's, however, he realized that the Johnson Administration's Vietnam policy would do little to curb Communism despite its sacrifice of thousands and thousands of young American men. Kennedy did not shy away from communicating his deep emotions regarding this loss. He once said:

Our brave young men are dying in the swamps of Southeast Asia. Which of them might have written a poem? Which of them might have cured cancer? Which of them might have played in a World Series or given us the gift of laughter from the stage or helped build a bridge of a university? Which of them would have taught a child to read? It is our responsibility to let these men live. *** It is indecent if they die because of the empty vanity of their country.

Kennedy loved his country and all of its people, but he was not afraid to be unpopular if it meant doing what he felt was right.

Mr. Speaker, Robert F. Kennedy's life was cut short by an assassin's bullet 30 years ago today, and with his passing America lost one of its most brilliant and compassionate leaders. Many of his gifts, however, live on to this day. His invaluable contributions to civil rights, economic justice, and a moral and principled foreign policy will not be erased from our consciousness. Robert F. Kennedy's children have followed their father's example by their commitment to public service, and I am proud to have worked for the last twelve years with his oldest son, Rep. Joseph Kennedy, Jr., a dear friend and tireless advocate for human rights and the underprivileged.

I invite my colleagues to join me in remembering Robert F. Kennedy. I pray that we all let his moral courage guide our public service, and that we ensure that his lessons will never be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO L'ANSE CREUSE MIDDLE SCHOOL SOUTH

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 5, 1998

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, education is a lifelong commitment and adventure. As children and adults, we all have reaped the benefits of our teachers' and school administrators' dedication. That is why each year, the United States Department of Education awards a selection of secondary schools with the Blue Ribbon Schools Award. This year, one hundred and sixty-six schools will be presented with the honor. We, in Macomb County, are proud of the fact that one of our own—L'Anse Creuse Middle School South—has been chosen to receive this important award this year.

As you walk into L'Anse Creuse Middle School South, a banner greets you with the words, "This is our village, these are our children. Love them, teach them, guide them." These are not merely words decorating a hallway. They symbolize the dedication that the staff feels for their students. As a recipient of the 1998 Blue Ribbon School Award, L'Anse Creuse Middle School South has worked hard to create a supportive educational environment for their students.

In 1975, L'Anse Creuse Middle School South opened its doors to students in Harrison Township, Michigan. Within the walls of Middle School South, an emphasis has been placed on academic success and self-esteem. The highly trained teaching staff is committed to working with each student as an individual. It is cooperation and respect between the staff and students that makes L'Anse Creuse Middle School South an exciting environment in which to learn and grow.

Each fall, for the past twenty-three years, students have entered the doors of L'Anse Creuse Middle School South to find a nurturing environment in which to learn. As a Blue Ribbon School, Middle School South is a working example for other schools to follow. I am proud to honor the achievements of the students and staff at L'Anse Creuse Middle School South.

HONORING MR. JIM BILL
MCINTEER FOR HIS 77TH BIRTH-
DAY, AND FOR THE 60TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF 21ST CENTURY
CHRISTIAN

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 5, 1998

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Jim Bill McInteer for his 77th birthday, and for the 60th anniversary of 21st Century Christian. This powerful, religious periodical, which humbly originated out of the home of M.N. Young, Sr., in 1938, is now in circulation to more than 6,000 people.

Mr. McInteer, who began his service with 20th Century Christian in 1947, working as a business manager, has been afforded the privilege to see this vehicle for Christ not only reach its 60th year of service, but also has been fortunate enough to stand at the helm,